

**TOWN OF LA POINTE
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
Tuesday, April 19, 2016
At 5:00 PM at Town Hall
Minutes**

Attendance as per sign-up sheet (40 townspeople present)

I. Call to Order at 5:01pm.

II. 2015 Financial Report: Discussion on how a new fire truck cost over \$800,000. Motion by Glenn Carlson to approve the 2015 Financial Report. Second by Keith Sowl. 39 Ayes, 1 Abstain, Motion Carried.

III. Approval of Minutes

A. Annual Town Meeting April 21, 2015: Clerk M. Montagne mentioned according to Wisconsin Statute 60.15, the minutes from the Annual Town Meeting just need to be prepared and signed by the clerk and filed, they do not need to be approved, but because the townspeople have approved them in the past, the procedure will remain. Motion by Keith Sowl to place the minutes from the Annual Town Meeting on April 21, 2015 on file. Second by Carey Baxter. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

B. Special Town Meeting December 7, 2015: one error, change 'my' to 'by' in item III. Motion by Keith Sowl to approve and place the minutes for the Special Town Board Meeting on December 7, 2015 on file. Robin Russell seconds. 39 Ayes, 1 Abstain, Motion Carried.

IV. Possible Purchase of Land on Main Street. Parcel numbers 014-00435-0100 and 014-00435-0200: Chair J. Patterson gives some brief background information that the two parcels are available from the County due to the previous owner not paying back taxes. The Town has the opportunity to purchase the land for \$12,692. If the Town does not move forward with the purchase, the land would go up for auction at a higher price. Motion by Michael Childers to direct the Town Board to purchase parcels 014-00435-0100 and 014-00435-0200 on Main Street. Second by Keith Sowl. Discussion included the desire to use the property as a small 'pocket' park with the building of a bathroom facility in the future. Many residents are in favor of the purchase and the park, but it was also mentioned that it would be good to have the Chamber, as a tourist based business, assist in the costs and maintenance of the bathrooms. Grants may also be available for the work to be done. Vote on the motion to direct the Town Board to purchase the land: 36 Ayes, 3 Opposed, Motion Carried.

V. Topics from the People

Keith Sowl read a letter requesting the Town Board to introduce a Resolution to lay a road which includes Big Arn's Road and Brian's Road. K. Sowl followed up his letter with a motion: Per Wisconsin Statute 60.10 (1)(a) he moves to raise money, including levying taxes and/ or raising the current levy, to pay for the expenses of the Town which would be incurred by the process of laying a Town road and bringing said roads up to acceptable road standards, on the easements currently now known as Big Arn's Road (begins on South Shore Road between parcels 210.011 and 210.08 and ends at Brian's Road between parcels 207.08 and 207.05) and Brian's Road (is

intersected by Big Arn's Road and lies perpendicular between parcels 208.03 and 208.06 westward to parcels 207.05 and 207.06). The dollar amount is to not exceed \$300,000. And if any money is raised and spent that the 2016 Highway expenditures are corrected accordingly. Second by Carey Baxter. C. Baxter read a letter also in support of the Town Board initiating a Resolution to take over Big Arn's Road and Brian's Road, including requesting the same considerations as the residents of Miller Farm Road received when the Town took over their road. Many comments in favor of the Town taking over Big Arn's Road and Brian's Road as it would be a good investment, there are many EMTs, Firefighters, year round residents, and children that live on the road, and it is a concern of public safety as the conditions are quite bad. A comment on not having the road become a Town road was that Miller Farm Road cost the taxpayers a lot of money. It was discussed that the road is about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile long, work would involve ditching, culverts, grading and gravel. Vote on the motion made by Keith Sowl: 38 Ayes, 1 Opposed, Motion Carried. The Towns association stated that such motions are advisory to the Town Board.

M. Starck mentioned that there are three openings on the Town Plan Commission if there are any interested parties that would like to sign up. Discussion on the possibility of reducing the TPC to five members instead of seven. Motion by Paul Brummer to reduce the Town Plan Commission to five members from seven. Second by Carey Baxter. Vote: 39 Ayes, 1 Opposed, Motion Carried. It was noted that Mike Starck voted in favor of a Paul Brummer motion.

M. Starck questioned the public on their thoughts about looking into putting a cell tower on the North end of the Island. Discussion with many comments on how it is a public safety issue, thus many in favor. Discussion on how the Town Board has been looking at the possibility of hiring a cell tower consultant/ facilitator that could cost \$6,000 for a five year contract with additional fees for meetings that he would attend. Comments included that the cell companies are not seeking out land for towers like they used to, and that it would be a good idea to have a consultant/ lobbyist to assist the Island in pursuing the tower on the North end. Motion by Kenneth Peterson to hire a consultant for a cell tower. Second by Steve McHugh. Further discussion included that the Town should put out a Request for Proposals for the consultant, and that just because a consultant is hired, does not guarantee that a tower would be put up. Vote on motion to hire a cell tower consultant with a request for proposals: 27 Ayes, 3 Opposed, Motion Carried.

VI. Adjourn: Motion by Keith Sowl to adjourn, second by Glenn Carlson. All Ayes, Motion Carried. Adjourned at 5:52pm.

Submitted by Micaela Montagne, Town Clerk. April 21, 2016